

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled Biased Fastening Device, the specification of which:

X is attached hereto; or

_____ was filed on _____ as United States Application Number

or PCT International Application Number _____

and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

(Application Number) (Country) (Filing Date)

Priority Claimed
 Yes No

(Application Number) (Country) (Filing Date)

Yes No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)

60/453,267
(Application Number)

March 10, 2003
(Filing Date)

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 363(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. OR PCT PARENT APPLICATION(S)

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

(Patent Number, if any)

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

(Patent Number, if any)

I hereby appoint the following registered practitioners to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: William R.

Coffey, Reg. No. 24023; Arland T. Stein, Reg. No. 25062; Richard D. Conard, Reg. No. 27321; Dilip A. Kulkarni, Reg. No. 27510; Richard A. Rezek, Reg. No. 30796; Paul B. Hunt, Reg. No. 37154; Jeffrey A. Michael, Reg. No. 37394; Bradford G. Addison, Reg. No. 41486; Shawn D. Bauer, Reg. No. 41603; Ronald S. Henderson, Reg. No. 43669; James R. Sweeney II, Reg. No. 45670; Christopher E. Haigh, Reg. No. 46377; Kevin D. Bailey, Reg. No. 46531; Rebecca Ball, Reg. No. 46535; Carl E. Stewart, Reg. No. 51058; Helen Geib, Reg. No. 50924; Kevin L. McLaren, Reg. No. 48351; Perry Palan, Reg. No. 26213; Mark M. Newman, Reg. No. 31472; Richard P. Krinsky, Reg. No. 47720; Richard B. Lazarus, Reg. No. 48215; Bobby B. Gillenwater, Reg. No. 31103; Gregory S. Cooper, Reg. No. 40965; Thomas J. Donovan, Reg. No. 33231; Alice O. Martin, Reg. No. 35601; Grant H. Peters, Reg. No. 35977; Daniel P. Albers, Reg. No. 44008; Sendil Devadas, Reg. No. 52425; Thomas B. Smith, Reg. No. 18243; Dennis M. McWilliams, Reg. No. 25195; James R. Sweeney, Reg. No. 18721; William M. Lee, Jr., Reg. No. 26935; Glenn W. Ohlson, Reg. No. 28455; David C. Brezina, Reg. No. 34128; Jeffrey R. Gray, Reg. No. 33391; Gerald S. Geren, Reg. No. 24528; Robert F.I. Conte, Reg. No. 20354; Timothy J. Engling, Reg. No. 39970; Howard B. Rockman, Reg. No. 22190; Peter J. Shakula, Reg. No. 40808; Mark A. Hagedorn, Reg. No. 44731; Mark J. Nahmias, Reg. No. 51093; Brian J. Gill, Reg. No. 46,727; and Cynthia L. Smith, Reg. No. 53,608; James B. Conte, Reg. No. 54661.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Signature Eleanor Schuler Date 3-10-04

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